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SONIC UNIVERSE | 73

SONIC UNIVERSE™

SPARK
OF LIFE
3
OF 4

ASSESSING THREATS...

RECOMMENDED
ACTION...

Tracy
Yardley!

...TERMINATION

WORLDS
UNITE
IN **3**



SONIC UNIVERSE™

SPARK
OF LIFE
#**3**
OF 4

EXTREME BFFS VARIANT

SONIC UNIVERSE | 73



Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures – a world beyond what you know from the SEGA games!
Where Nicole, the artificial intelligence, is finally confronted by a mysterious being ...



**CHARACTER
= SELECT =**



**PRINCESS
SALLY ACORN**
FREEDOM FIGHTER LEADER



**NICOLE THE
HEDGEHOG**
ADVANCED A.I.



DR. ELLIDY
RETIRED HERMIT



???

SONIC UNIVERSE™

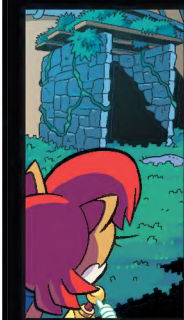
PREVIOUSLY...

CLOSED SPACE SECRETS

On Isolated Island, Sally, Tails, Nicole and Big met up with Nicole's creator, Dr. Ellidy. After Dr. Eggman attacked the island in the past, Dr. Ellidy repurposed the madman's leftover badniks for his own use.



However, the badniks have started to misbehave... and while Nicole tries to get to the root of the problem, Sally stumbles upon a dark secret...



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ISOLATED
ISLAND...

WHAT'S
GOING ON HERE?
WHO IS THIS? SHE
REMINDS ME OF
NICOLE--

DON'T YOU
SAY THAT.
DON'T.

SALLY ACORN
LEADER AND
PRINCESS

DR. ELLIDY
HERMIT
SCIENTIST

WHAT'S YOUR
PROBLEM WITH
NICOLE, ANYWAY?
YOU *CREATED*
HER!

THE PHOTO
IS OF MY DAUGHTER.
NIKKI. SHE...PASSED
AWAY SEVERAL
YEARS AGO.

NICOLE WAS
SUPPOSED
TO SAVE HER LIFE.

THE DIGITAL WORLD

NOW *THAT'S*
INTERESTING.

INTRIGUING.

FASCINATING.

NICOLE
ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE
AND HERO

SYSTEM
PARTITIONE

YOU KNOW,
IF AN ORGANIC
BEING DIES WITH
A SECRET, THAT
SECRET DIES
WITH THEM.

BUT DIGITAL
INFORMATION IS
STORED,
REPLICATED,
SPREAD OUT
INDEFINITELY...IT'S
MUCH HARDER
FOR IT TO
DISAPPEAR.

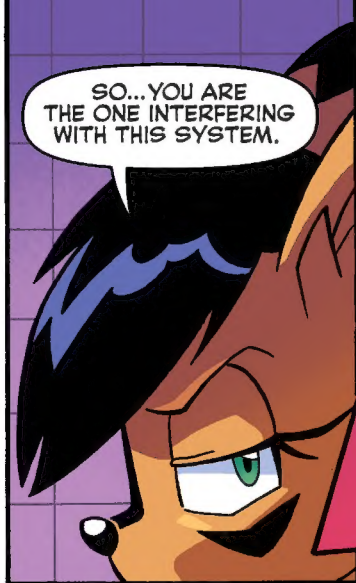
IF DR. ELLIDY WERE TO
DIE, WHAT SECRETS WOULD
HE TAKE WITH HIM?

WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT?

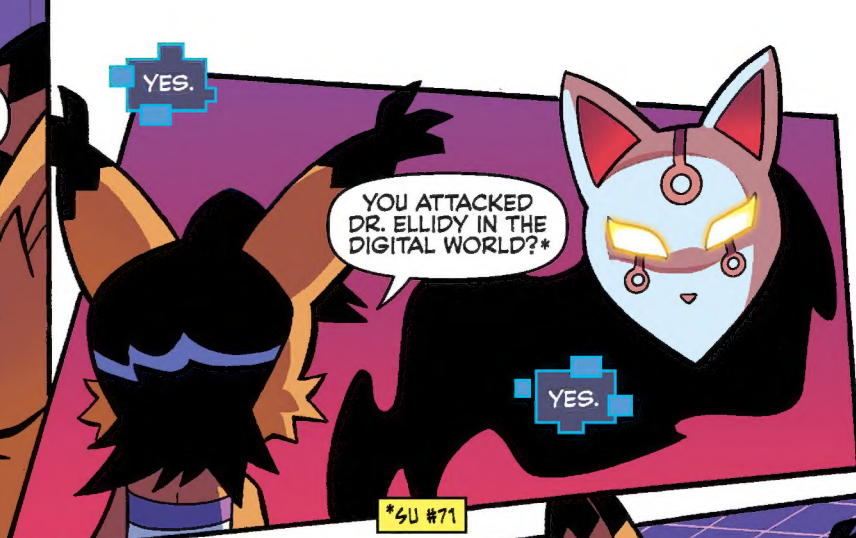
WHO ARE
YOU?

Oh. YOU CAN
CALL ME PHAGE.





SO...YOU ARE
THE ONE INTERFERING
WITH THIS SYSTEM.

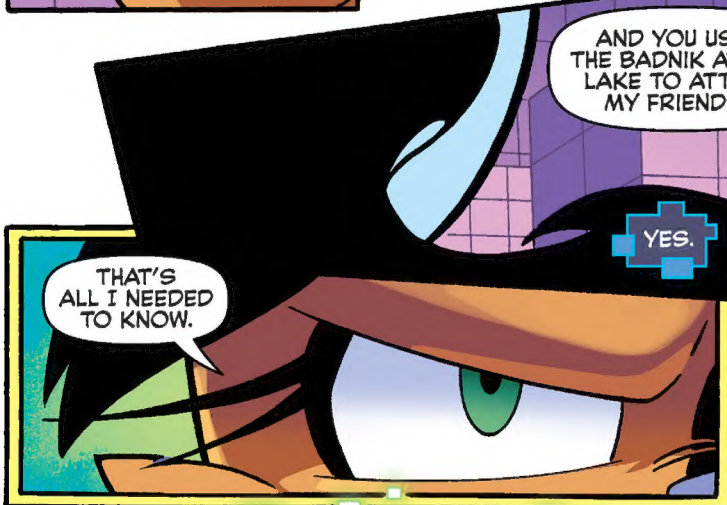


YES.

YOU ATTACKED
DR. ELLIDY IN THE
DIGITAL WORLD?*

YES.

*SU #71



THAT'S
ALL I NEEDED
TO KNOW.

AND YOU USED
THE BADNIK AT THE
LAKE TO ATTACK
MY FRIENDS?*

YES.

*SU #72



THERE,
NOW--

...WHAT
THE...



WELL.
THAT WAS
CUTE.

AMUSING.

MILDLY
ENTERTAINING.

I'M HERE
WITH CERTAIN
OBJECTIVES,
NICOLE.

I INFILTRATED THIS
SYSTEM BEFORE
YOU EVEN KNEW IT
WAS HAPPENING.

YOU CAN'T
STOP ME.



TALK IS *SLOW*.



AND WHILE
I *DO* FIND YOU
FASCINATING...

THE PAST...

MOBOTROPOLIS,
WESTSIDE ISLAND

NOK
NOK

EL?

WHAT? I'M
BUSY. YOU
KNOW
THAT.

LOOK, I KNOW THINGS
ARE ROUGH, BUT...WHEN'S
THE LAST TIME YOU
SLEPT? OR ATE?

I'M FINE. I'M
NOT STUPID.

I WROTE THIS
PROGRAM TO HELP
MAP OUT THE NEURAL
PATHWAYS THERE.

CHUCK THE
HEDGEHOG
DOCTOR

MAPPING...28%

...THIS IS FROM
YOUR DIGITIZER?
THEN...DID YOU
ALREADY MANAGE
TO TRANSFER--

NO. NOT YET.
THAT FIRST SCAN
IS TO LAY DOWN THE
GROUNDWORK. A
STRUCTURE. THEN...
THEN I CAN...

EL...WHY DON'T YOU
LET THAT PROGRAM HANDLE
THINGS FOR A BIT AND--

ANY
SUDDEN
BREAK-
THROUGHS
ON THE ROBOTI-
CIZER?

...NO.

THEN THIS
IS ALL I HAVE
LEFT.

THE PRESENT...

LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT. NIKKI IS YOUR DAUGHTER. BUT NICOLE IS NOT NIKKI.

I ALREADY TOLD YOU, NIKKI'S DEAD. SHE WAS... WASTING AWAY.

I'D HOPED SHE COULD LIVE ON IN SOME FORM VIA THE DIGITIZER... BUT...

THE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE PROGRAM THAT WAS MAPPING HER NEURAL SCANS... THAT... BECAME NICOLE?

LOOK, I'M SORRY FOR YOUR LOSS, BUT IT'S **NOT** FAIR TO BLAME NICOLE FOR YOUR DAUGHTER'S DEATH!

I DIDN'T!

THAT'S WHY I GAVE NICOLE TO YOU INSTEAD OF JUST DELETING IT ALL!

BUT NOW... SEEING HER LIKE THIS... WALKING AROUND WHILE MY POOR NIKKI NEVER GOT THE CHANCE TO... TO...



OKAY, YOU MAY HAVE NOT MEANT FOR ALL THIS, BUT NICOLE'S HERE NOW! YOU **MUST** KNOW THAT YOU'RE HURTING HER FEELINGS BY IGNORING--

"HURTING" HER? DOES SHE ACTUALLY KNOW WHAT "HURT" IS? DO YOU?!



HOW DARE YOU?!

WHEN I LOST MY FATHER--

YOU GOT YOUR FATHER BACK!



WHO DO YOU THINK YOU ARE? YOU... YOU CAN'T...



...WHY ARE WE EVEN...

...Oh NO...



IT'S DARK GAIA! THE STUFF LEAKING FROM THE PLANET'S CORE IS AFFECTING OUR MINDS! GET BACK INSIDE!

WHA...? DON'T BE RIDICULOUS. MY ROBOTS WILL PROTECT...

NO, THEY WON'T!

MOVE!

TAILS! BIG!

WAKE-UP-WAKE-UP-WAKE-UP!

Z

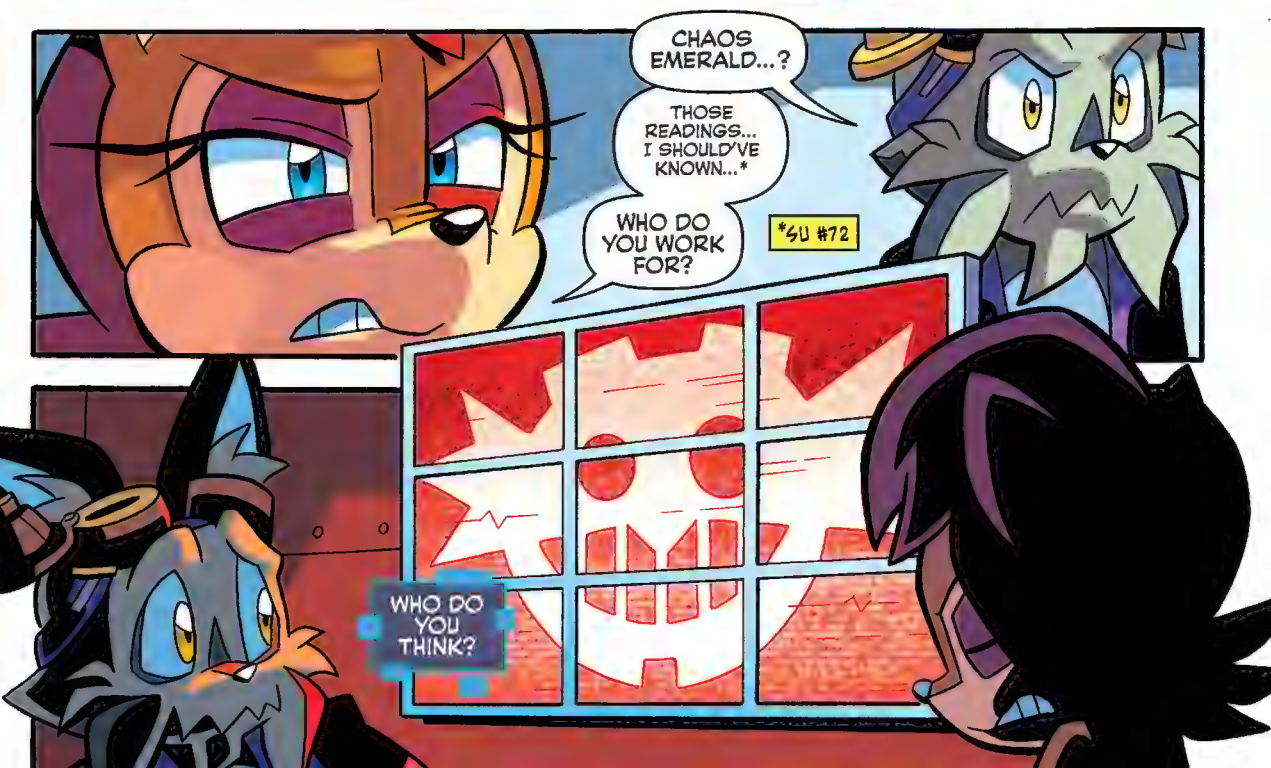
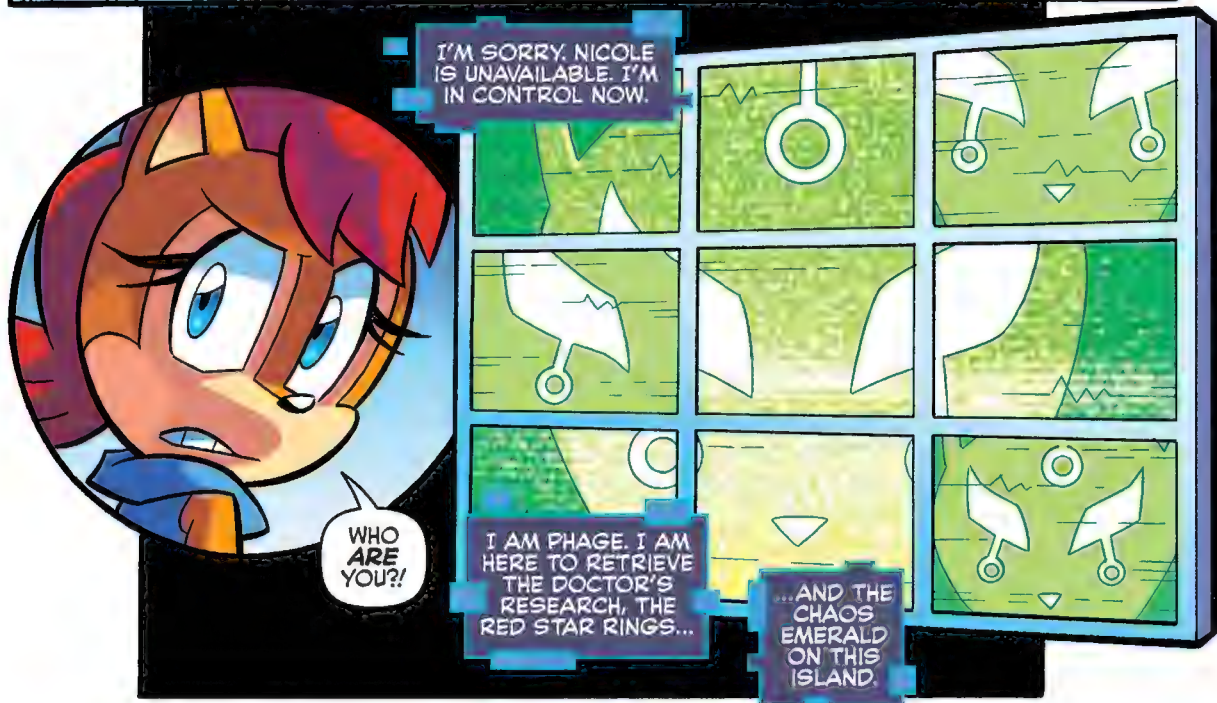
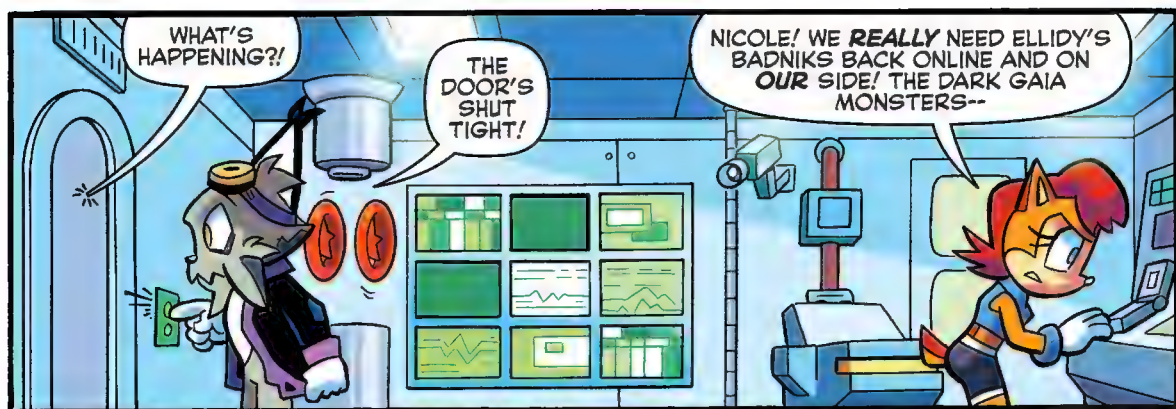
HURRY! THE DOOR!

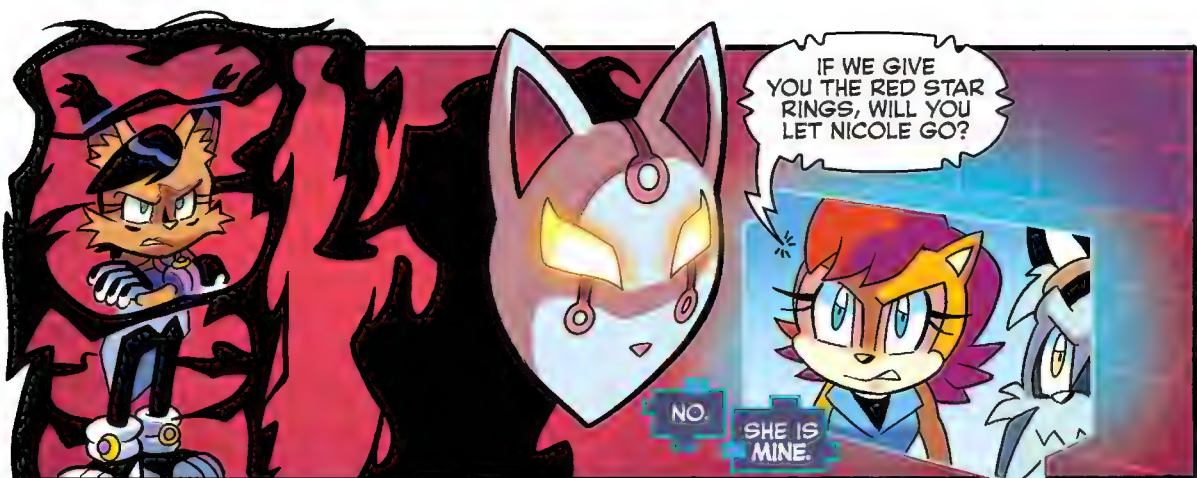
GET TO THE LAB! WE NEED TO--

KUCHUK KUCHUK

OOF!

WHOOSH





IF WE GIVE YOU THE RED STAR RINGS, WILL YOU LET NICOLE GO?

NO.

SHE IS MINE.



PRINCESS...IF WE SHUT DOWN THE SYSTEM ENTIRELY--



WE'D BE DESTROYING NICOLE ALONG WITH PHAGE.

THAT *THING* NOW CONTROLS ALL MY BADNIKS. IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME--

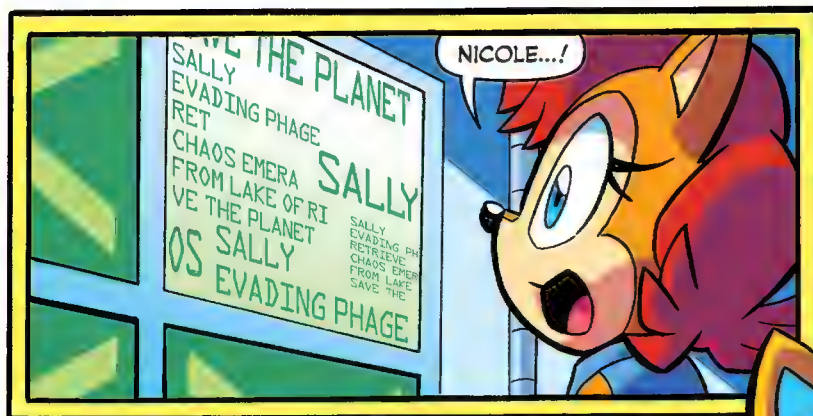
WE ARE *NOT* GIVING IN THAT EASILY.



Hmm. IT SEEMS YOU'D MAKE A USEFUL LITTLE HOSTAGE.

OF COURSE, HOW WOULD THEY *KNOW* IF YOU WERE GONE? I COULD JUST--

NO!



SALLY! THE BADNIKS AREN'T DOING ANYTHING TO STOP THE DARK GAIA MONSTERS-- THEY'RE ALL TRYING TO BUST IN!



ALL RIGHT, STAY SAFE!

BUT...

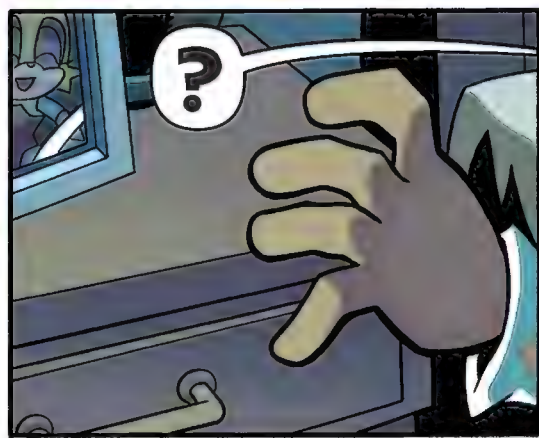
BIG PICTURE, TAILS! YOU'RE THE ONLY ONES WHO CAN DO IT!

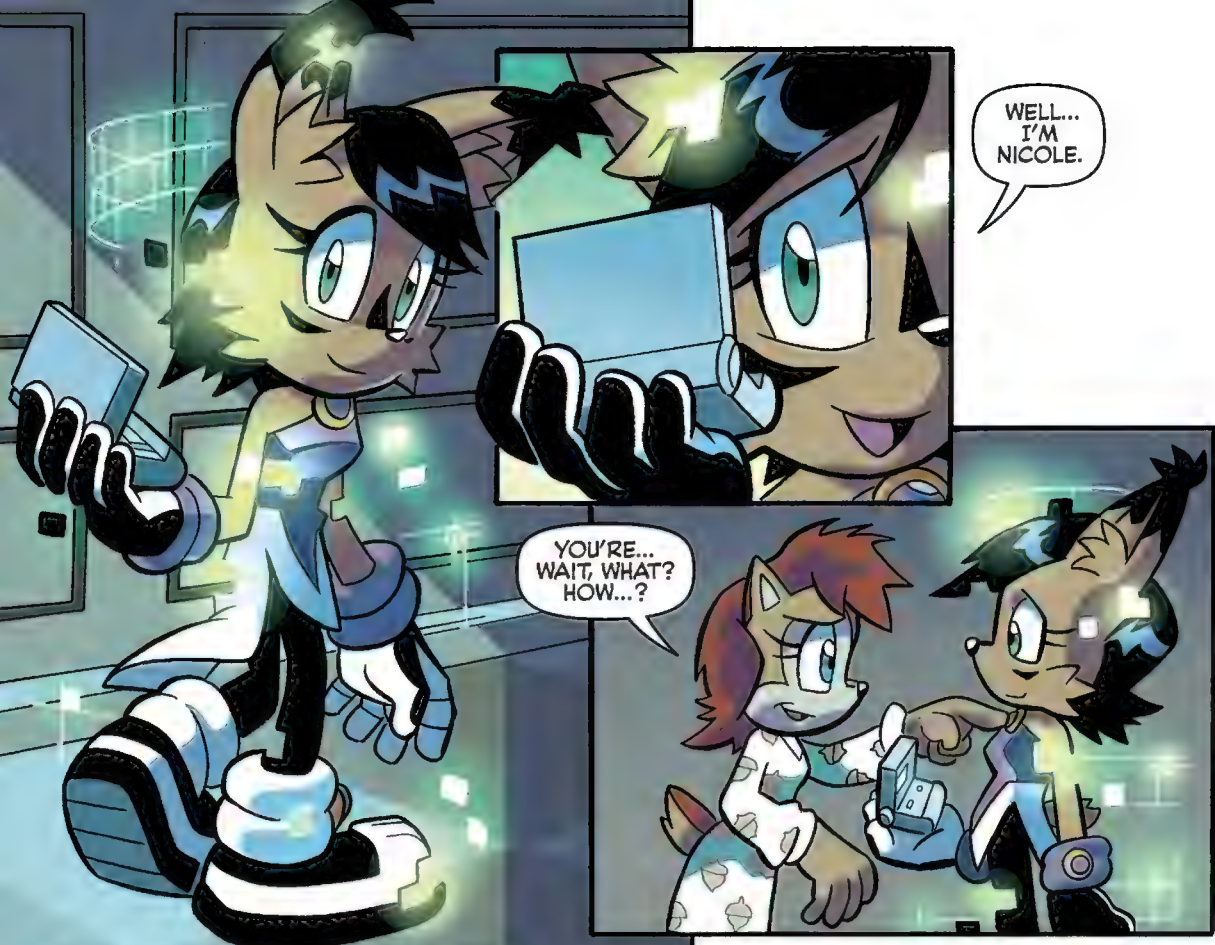


YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY? ABOUT GOING OUT OF THE FRYING PAN...?

I KNOW. BUT AS LONG AS PHAGE IS HERE...

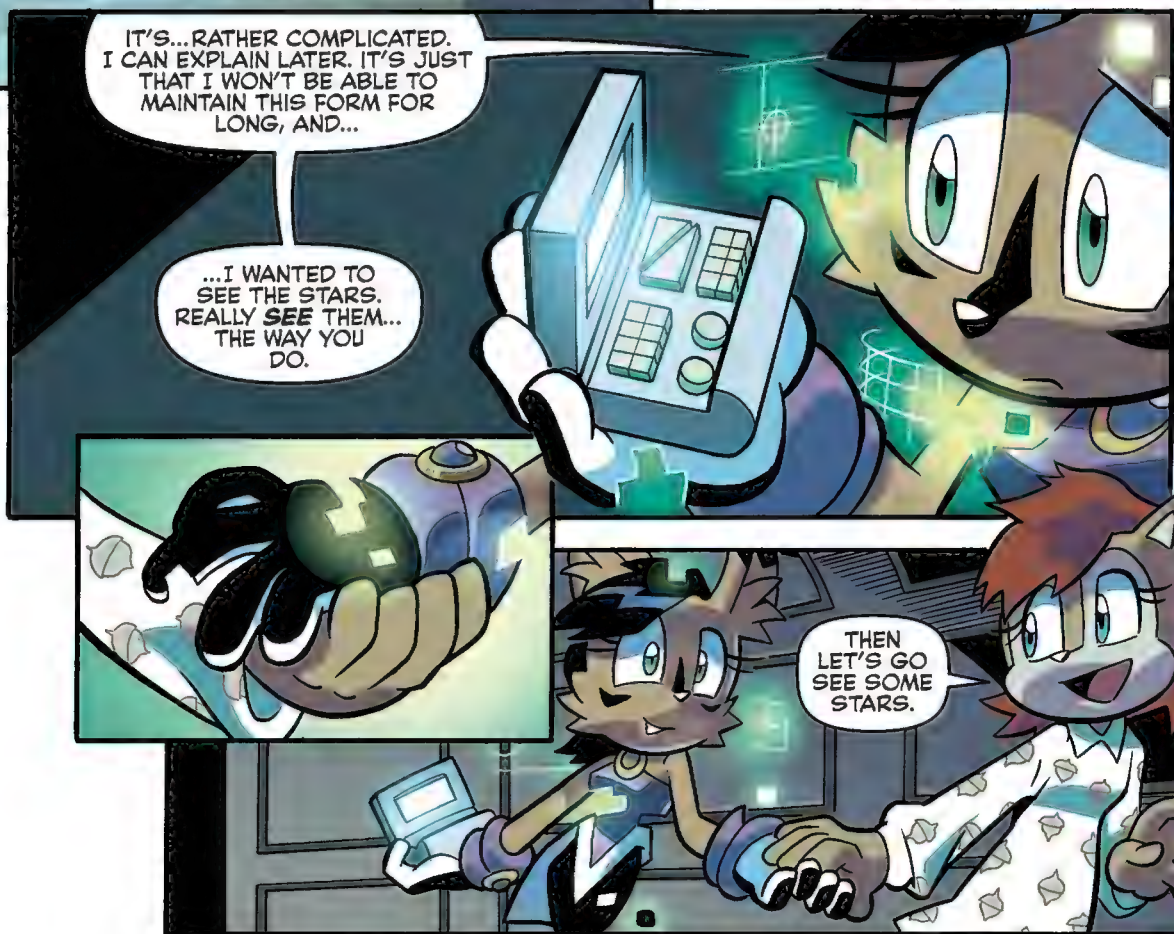
...WE'RE ALL IN DANGER.





WELL...
I'M
NICOLE.

YOU'RE...
WAIT, WHAT?
HOW...?



IT'S...RATHER COMPLICATED.
I CAN EXPLAIN LATER. IT'S JUST
THAT I WON'T BE ABLE TO
MAINTAIN THIS FORM FOR
LONG, AND...

...I WANTED TO
SEE THE STARS.
REALLY **SEE** THEM...
THE WAY YOU
DO.

THEN
LET'S GO
SEE SOME
STARS.

THE PRESENT--
THE DIGITAL WORLD

ARE YOU REALLY
TRYING TO RUN AWAY?
THERE'S NOWHERE FOR
YOU TO GO, NICOLE.

IT'S
FUTILE.

POINTLESS.

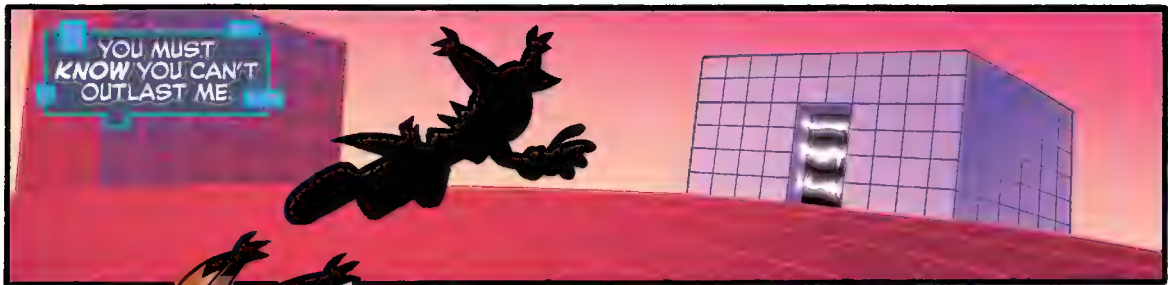
HOPELESS.

I CONTROL THIS SYSTEM.
I WILL ABSORB YOUR UNIQUE
CODING ALONG WITH EVERY-
THING ELSE.

I DON'T HAVE
A COZY LITTLE
HANDHELD LIKE
YOU. I AM
EVERYWHERE.

I AM NOT
CONTAINED
BY ANY
SERVER. I'VE
INFECTED
HUNDREDS OF
SYSTEMS. ALL
OF THEIR
INFORMATION,
THEIR
RESOURCES,
THEIR
PROCESSING
POWER...

...ARE LINKED DIRECTLY TO MY CORE.







A stylized illustration of a fox mask, likely representing the character Yoda from the anime 'Gintama'. The mask is white with red markings on the ears and around the eyes. The eyes are glowing yellow. The mask has a small red mark on the forehead and a small red mark on the chin.



...BUT I'M NOT HOLDING MYSELF TO THAT PROMISE.

IF YOU WANT NICOLE, YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO GO THROUGH ME!

IF YOU WANT NICOLE, YOU'RE
GONNA HAVE TO GO THROUGH ME!



OFFER
ACCEPTED.

SPARK (OF) LIFE

PART THREE

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CORRUPTED ROBOTS AND DARK MONSTERS ARE RUNNING RAMPANT!!

THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THE THREAT
IS TO SHUT DOWN PHAGE HERSELF--
BUT CAN SALLY AND NICOLE
FIGHT HER IN HER OWN ELEMENT?!
FIND OUT NEXT MONTH IN THE
HIGH-STAKES CONCLUSION OF

SPARK OF LIFE!

AND DON'T FORGET TO CHECK OUT
SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, AND THE
BRAND NEW SERIES SONIC BOOM
EACH MONTH, THE SONIC SUPER
SPECIAL MAGAZINES AND SONIC SUPER
DIGESTS EACH QUARTER, AND THE
GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY ANY TIME!

NEXT ISSUE: SONIC UNIVERSE 74



SPARK OF LIFE

THE CONCLUSION